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Case Docket No. NIH174.001C1

Date: January 2, 2002

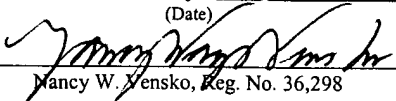
Page 1

Interapplication of : McCart et al.  
App. No. : 09/991,721  
Filed : November 13, 2001  
For : A COMBINED GROWTH  
FACTOR-DELETED AND  
THYMIDINE KINASE-  
DELETED VACCINIA  
VIRUS VECTOR  
Examiner : Unknown  
Art Unit : Unknown

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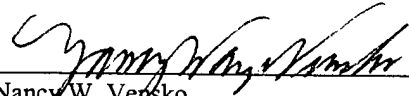
  
Nancy W. Vensko, Reg. No. 36,298

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

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Nancy W. Vensko  
Registration No. 36,298  
Attorney of Record

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : McCart et al. ) Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Appl. No. : 09/991,721 )  
Filed : November 13, 2001 )  
For : A COMBINED GROWTH )  
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THYMIDINE KINASE- )  
DELETED VACCINIA VIRUS )  
VECTOR )  
Examiner : Unknown )

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, paragraph 0001, please delete paragraph 0001 claiming the benefit of an earlier filing date and cross-references to other applications under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2) and add the following paragraph as its substitute:

A1  
This application is a continuation of prior application International Application No. PCT/US00/14679, having international filing date of May 26, 2000, designating the United States of America and published in English, which claims the benefit of priority of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/137,126, filed May 28, 1999.

REMARKS

By this amendment, the specification claims the benefit of an earlier filing date and cross-references to other applications under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2).

Appl. No. :

Filed :

/991,721

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. If any points remain that can be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-given telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 12/30/01

By: 

Nancy W. Vensko

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